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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/719,114	11/21/2003	Teck Chia	200701913-4	1805
22879	7590	03/17/2010 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY Intellectual Property Administration 3404 E. Harmony Road Mail Stop 35 FORT COLLINS, CO 80528		
		EXAMINER ALMATRAHI, FARIS S		
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER 3627	
		NOTIFICATION DATE 03/17/2010		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM  
ipa.mail@hp.com  
laura.m.clark@hp.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/719,114	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CHIA ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> FARIS ALMATHRAHI	<b>Art Unit</b> 3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### **Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 November 2009.

2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 12-23 and 26-34 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 12-23 and 26-34 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### **Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### **Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### **Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement (PTO/1449)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 02/17/2010

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Status of the Application***

1. This action is in reply to applicant communication filed November 19, 2009.
2. Claims 12 and 16 have been amended.
3. Claims 1-11 and 24-25 are cancelled.
4. Claims 12-23 and 26-34 are pending in this application.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 12-23 and 26-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thurston et al. (US Publication No. 2003/0217193 A1) in view of Hind et al. (US Patent No. 7,069,452 B1) and Shirasawa et al. (US Publication No. 2002/0166027 A1).**
7. Regarding claims 12, 16-17 and 26-27, Thurston discloses a system and method for updating firmware in an electronic device of a system, wherein the system comprises the electronic device and a network, the method comprising: generating updating information for updating the firmware to a particular version of the firmware, in a

generation environment (Abstract, Figure 3, Paragraphs [0008] – [0009]); saving the generated updating information in a storage (Paragraph [0024]); communicating the saved updating information to a distribution environment comprising a network that distributes the updating information to one or more electronic devices (Abstract, Figure 1); and populating updating information (Paragraphs [0065] – [0066]).

8. Thurston does not explicitly disclose a network comprising an update store comprising a repository of update packages having lifecycles managed by the lifecycle management component and managing the lifecycle of the updating information by changing status information for the lifecycle of the updating information, enabling and disabling distribution of the updating information according to the status information for the lifecycle of the updating information, and wherein the status information includes specifying a user of the electronic device that will receive the update package and when to start dispensing the update package.

9. Hind discloses a network comprising an update store comprising a repository of update packages having lifecycles managed by the lifecycle management component (Figure 10, Column 18 line 46 – Column 19 line 2).

10. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of Hind in the device of Thurston reference to include an update store comprising a repository of update packages having lifecycles managed by the lifecycle management component in order to take advantage current reliable technology.

11. Shirasawa shows a system and method for managing the lifecycle of the updating information by changing status information for the lifecycle of the updating information, and enabling and disabling distribution of the updating information according to the status information for the lifecycle of the updating information (Paragraphs [0047] – [0050]).

12. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the combined teachings of Hind and Shirasawa in the device of Thurston reference to include a system and method for managing the lifecycle of the updating information by changing status information for the lifecycle of the updating information, and enabling and disabling distribution of the updating information according to the status information for the lifecycle of the updating information in order to take advantage current reliable technology. Also, it would have been obvious to modify the above references to include specifying a user of the electronic device that will receive the update package and when to start dispensing the update package in order to provide user authentication.

13. Regarding claim 13, Thurston discloses a method further comprising packaging the saved updating information before communicating it to the distribution environment (Figure 3).

14. Regarding claim 14, Thurston discloses a method wherein the distribution environment comprises an updating storage and a server (Abstract, Figure 1).

15. Regarding claim 15, Thurston discloses a method further comprising receiving requests for updating information (Figure 7); retrieving requested updating information

from update store (Figure 3, Figure 7, Paragraph [0044]); facilitating downloads of the requested updating information (Figure 7: 720-728); verifying reception of the downloaded updating information (Figure 7: 730, 732); and utilizing the downloaded updating information to update firmware in the electronic device (Figure 7: 726, 728).

16. Regarding claim 18, Thurston discloses a system wherein lifecycle management comprises at least one of: facilitating loading of the updating information; facilitating deleting of the updating information; and facilitating editing of status information of the updating information (Figure 7, Paragraph [0032]).

17. Regarding claims 19-20, Thurston discloses a system wherein the network further comprises a lifecycle management component that manages the lifecycle of the electronic devices (Figure 3, Paragraphs [0032] – [0034]).

18. Regarding claims 21 and 34, Thurston discloses a system wherein lifecycle management comprises at least one of: provisioning of the electronic devices; determining change of ownership of the electronic devices; determining change of subscription of the electronic devices; and determining when an electronic device is no longer in use in the system (Figure 8).

19. Regarding claims 22-23, Thurston discloses a system wherein the electronic devices maintain statistics information regarding the total number of distributed updating information and the time of distribution of the updating information and communicate the statistics information to a server (Paragraphs [0040] –[0041]).

20. Regarding claims 28-29, Thurston discloses a method further comprising updating state information for the particular version of updating information in a

database of lifecycle information for update information (Figures 1, 4, 8; Paragraphs [0026] – [0027], [0042]).

21. Regarding claims 30 and 33, Thurston discloses a system and method wherein lifecycle management of updating information comprises one or more of creating updating information, deleting updating information, editing updating information, changing state information for updating information, specifying recipients of distributed updating information, or specifying a time to begin distributing update information (Figures 8-10, Paragraph [0037]).
22. Regarding claims 31 and 32, Thurston discloses a system and method wherein updating information comprises and update package (Figure 4).

#### ***Response to Arguments***

23. Applicant's arguments filed on November 19, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive
24. Regarding Applicants arguments that *there is no disclosure that the status information includes specifying a user of the electronic device that will receive the update package and when to start dispensing the update package*. Examiner respectfully disagrees. The feature of specifying a user of the electronic device that will receive the update package and when to start dispensing the update package is old and well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate this feature with the cited reference.

***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Faris Almatrahi whose telephone number is (571)270-3326. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Faris Almatrahi  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3627

FA

/F. Ryan Zeender/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3627